

NSA review completed

ROUNDUP

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25 May 1953

BIG-THREE MEETING:

Pravda's 24 May editorial ~~p~~ betrays

apprehension over the forthcoming

Bermuda conference. It exploits US-UK differences regarding

the proper approach to a solution of international issues.

Churchill is praised because he, unlike President Eisenhower,

fixed no preconditions for a Big Power conference. Pravda warnsthat the Bermuda meeting may preclude Big ~~2~~ Four discussions,

since its purpose apparently is to reach an agreed Western stand

against the USSR. The USSR will not participate in a conference

approached by the West with fixed demands.

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KOREAN NEGOTIATIONS:

Vyshinski recently told a member

of the Indian UN delegation that he expected a Korean armistice

in June followed by a special session of the General Assembly

in July. These remarks may have been designed to pave the way

for Molotov's interview with the Indian Ambassador to Moscow

on 16 May. Molotov stressed the importance of Indian membership

on any neutral commission having custody of prisoners unwilling

to be repatriated immediately. Moscow is apparently confident

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that a five-nation commission with India having a decisive vote would enable the Communists to secure the return of the bulk of the prisoners, either during the "explanation" period or through through later disposition by the commission. These approaches are further evidence that the USSR is becoming increasingly willing to use its official influence to promote armistice negotiations.

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SOVIET-INDIAN RELATIONS:

The Indian Food Minister has been invited to Moscow to discuss a possible sale of Soviet wheat to New Delhi. The USSR has reportedly offered any amount of wheat needed by India at less than the international price, and to supply the necessary shipping. The Soviet Union is capable of making large wheat shipments this year. It is believed, however, that India's needs for 1953 may have already been met. This offer would appear to be aimed at winning favor in a key neutral power.

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**LIBERAL POLICIES OF NEW SOVIET
REGIME FURTHER INDICATED:**

In Moscow, wheat flour, which has been practically unavailable to the public since the war, was put on sale in state stores

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on 18 May. Rumors circulated that the working day was to be reduced from 8 to 7 hours and that there would be no drive for a state loan this year.

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the new Soviet regime plans to step up

the production of consumer goods. Increased output is to be realized through broad use of local raw materials and scrap.

In the wake of the amnesty decree and large price cuts, these recent steps strengthen the view that the new leaders are attempting to portray themselves as more liberal than Stalin.

ORBIT-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS:

The appointment of a south-eastern European specialist

as new Soviet charge in Yugoslavia may foreshadow a Soviet effort to resume more normal diplomatic relations. The USSR is not expected to attempt to establish close economic and cultural relations since this would cause serious repercussions within the Orbit. Soviet tactics will more probably be aimed at undermining Yugoslav relations with the West, and Tito's recent speech

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reiterating his stand on the side of the West indicates his
his concern over such tactics. Orbit propaganda continues
to attack the Tito regime.

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TITO AND TRIESTE:

Tito's sharp attacks on Italy

in two recent speeches, indi-

cated a tougher attitude on Trieste

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